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RURAL
WORLD

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE HORSES CATTLE SHEEP SWINE ETC.

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COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD

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MAKE THE FOUNDATION RIGHT.

In discussing the corn fodder question in an article that appears on this page, the writer of the article mentions some of the stones which farmers must use in the foundation of their business if a stable structure is to be erected. The chief corner stone is named "General Intelligence." We interpret Dr. Morris as meaning that farmers, if they are to maintain their proper relative position, socially, financially and morally, must strive for a higher degree of general intelligence as farmers; or in other words, a broader knowledge of the sciences underlying agriculture and of the practice that makes for perfection.

In urging that farmers should become more intelligent, it is not to be understood that farmers are less intelligent than are other classes respecting matters outside of their respective lines of business; but it has to be admitted that the mass of our farmers have not kept pace with those engaged in other callings in acquiring knowledge of and skill in their respective lines of work. This is due, in great measure, to the tremendous fund of information that has been developed in the last few years by our agricultural experiment stations and other investigators in agriculture, and the difficulty in getting this disseminated among the vast number of farmers scattered throughout the length and breadth of the land. The fund of agricultural information has been increased faster than has our ability as a class to absorb it.

A problem, then, for the consideration of those who wish to see agriculture "put on a higher plane" is, How shall farmers be put in possession of that chief corner stone, "General Intelligence," and it so hewn and fashioned that the other stones named by Dr. Morris will harmonize with it and make a symmetrical and enduring structure?

A great difficulty has been that the foundation stones, and even the chief corner stone, that have been given to farmers on which to build their life work, are not suitably hewn; they have been cut by those who have had before their mental vision careers other than that of agriculture. Our teachers in the rural schools, who are engaged in preparing mental foundation stones for children whose life work in the majority of cases will be on the farm, and in the farm home, must try to make the foundation suitable to the superstructure.

UNIFORMITY HAS VALUE.

The man engaged in any commercial pursuit who makes a success of his business enterprise is the one who caters to the tastes and wishes of his customers. That very important character, Fashion, in some indefinable way, gives her dictum as to what society must set, wear and own, and her reign is not confined to the city parlor for in the stock columns of agricultural papers will be noted such a statement as "They are fashionably bred hogs." Thus the farmer is conscious of this demand, and he is too apt to ignore its importance and hence is the financial loser.

The study of the markets for six months will show very conclusively that the carload lots of stock that bring the top-of-the-market price are those of uniform breeding and appearance. A commission man of years of experience said recently that on the New York market shipments of large brown eggs in quantities sufficient to supply a fancy trade commanded from three to five cents more per dozen than eggs of varied sizes and colors. Here in St. Louis, boxes of eggs each containing a dozen large white eggs are sold at the best grocery stores for several cents in advance of the general market price. Then, every dayman knows that the standard fixed for butter by the so-called Elgin district has created a demand for butter of uniform color, texture and flavor. And to this fact is due the low price of the butter produced on the farm. At the creamery butter is made by fixed rules, which will give known results; in the farm home the acidity, saltiness, temperature are largely guessed at; hence butter made in the same home on consecutive days will vary so much even in color that to pack the two lots in the same jar and send it to a leading market would result in getting for such goods the lowest market price.

Where farming along any special line has sufficient capital invested to enable the farmer to ship in large quantities his own production to great market centers, such a man, when he realizes the importance of uniformity in size, age, color and quality of animals he is growing, if he is desirous of getting top-of-the-market prices, has the power to direct

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his effort in this line and profit thereby. But what of the small farmer, who has only a few head of stock, each year, or a few pounds of butter and a few dozen of eggs each week for sale? And much of the farm produce for market supply comes from the small farm.

This makes evident the fact that farmers of the same community should recognize the need of the hour, suppress individual tastes and ascertain what are the leading breeds of cattle, hogs or poultry owned by the majority of the farmers in the district, then by judicious management try to make uniform the products on all farms in this territory. But when one farmer breeds Herefords, another Shortborns, and another nondescripts, the shipper is most apt to place on the market nondescripts, and have the humiliation of seeing lots of stock of uniform breeding getting much better prices than those received for his shipments.

The progressive farmers of a district could in no way do more to advance their own interests and that of their neighbors than in giving this subject the careful consideration of which it is worthy and, then, use its importance and secure the adoption of the practice in their respective communities.

NOTES FROM AN OHIO FARM.

Editor RURAL WORLD: I am just home from a trip into the Cumberland Mountains, over the Cincinnati Southern railroad, a road over 300 miles long built and equipped by the city of Cincinnati.

My younger brother moved down into the land of "sassafras, sedge grass and saw briars," 13 years ago. He bought an old farm of 100 acres and went to work on it. Pretty hard sledding at first, but the past season his wheat and corn crop represents a sale value of 50 per cent of the cost of his farm. This over and above the wheat necessary for his bread and seed, and the corn for his farm stock. His first crops of corn were not above 10 bushels per acre, and his first three wheat crops did not average five bushels. The present wheat crop made 19 bushels and the corn will go at least 40 bushels per acre. Good enough on \$3 per acre land. What did it? Well, "patience, pluck and perseverance," and—clover seed. Like many other newcomers in the Middle South, he at first listened to the advice of the old residents when they said, "Clover will not stick here." But as soon as he sowed it and treated it on scientific principles, i. e., clipped the stubble the first fall and mowed the crop for hay the following spring, he proved that it would "stick," and his land began to produce better crops.

IN THE MIDDLE SOUTH.—In the opinion of the writer there is a great future in stores for this Middle South, on the land extending across North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri and Arkansas. The industrious, poor man in search of a home can scarcely go amiss in any of this vast region of good timber, pure water and perfect climate.

In crossing the beautiful "Blue grass region" of Kentucky, one can see but few stacks of straw for this Middle South. The failure of the wheat crop in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan created a demand for the straw from Kentucky's good crop, and it is all coming north.

WHAT HURT THE SOUTH.—This makes me think about some of the impoverished lands of the south. The condition of much of this land is due to the fact that 100 years ago, under the slavery regime, the main crop was tobacco, and the crop was all shipped away, most of it via New Orleans. No effort was made to keep up the fertility of the soil and abandoned lands was the result. Of course under the present system of cultivation and the use of the soil, but we deem it poor policy to sell straw off the farm. I burned part of a straw stack once, I was in a hurry to get a field plowed and the straw was in the way. Whenever I see a thin spot on the farm, I feel ashamed of my deed that day, as a few loads of that stack would have done a great deal of good in a dozen places on the farm.

A MAD LYON.—"On change" in a great city the other day I saw some plants of wheat badly infested with fly on exhibition on the grain tables. It made me mad to hear the remarks made on the subject by the well dressed villagers who live by speculating on the products of our soil, and by skinning each other. The fact that the coming wheat crop is in great danger was no cause for regret, rather a source of gratification, as it furnished a wider field for "chance" in speculative operations.

I am not very well posted on the sub-

ject of "changes" and "chamber of commerce," but it does seem to me that if we could set our crops of corn, wheat and oats directly into the hands of the miller or consumer without the interposition of these gambling hells we would fare better.

UNPROFITABLE BOARDERS.—The editor gives excellent advice under this head in the Oct. 17 issue. While there is a laudable sentiment in keeping the old horse until age puts an end to his life, it is always much better to end his career with a well-aimed charge of lead before winter sets in. I have shot more than 40 old and diseased horses. I formerly used a rifle, but of late years I take the shotgun and standing about eight feet from the horse's head, plant a load of No. 5 shot in the center of forehead, about half way from eye to ear. A horse's skull is very thin and I never saw one struggle after the gun cracked. Where logs or brush are handy we burn the carcass, and thus prevent any foul smell. It does not take much wood to burn the carcass of a large animal.

YIELDS OF CORN.—My oldest boy went to mill to-day. He took six bushels of wheat and two sacks of corn in the ear. He had the miller shell one sack of a small variety known as Hickory King; it was a common two-bushel grain bag of corn. The shelled corn weighed 75 pounds, the cobs 13 pounds, waste one pound. The corn was taken from a shock of 6x36 hills. There were three bags of sound corn and a three-gallon bucketful of nubbins. At the rate this bag shelled there were almost exactly four bushels of corn in the shock. The Hickory King has a very small cob, and the ear is by no means large, yet it will shell fully as much grain as many of the larger large-cobbed varieties. It has one serious fault, it is very late.

We filled four grain bags from a 6x36 shock of Klondike the other day, and had half a sack of nubbins. This large percent of small corn is due to the variety frequently growing, a large one and a small one on a single stock; it is a fine variety of corn. C. D. LYON, Ohio.

LIFE HISTORY OF THE CHINCH BUG.

Editor RURAL WORLD: Oct. 29. It commenced raining yesterday morning, and has hardly ceased a minute since, coming in a heavy downpour most of the night. Will this rain destroy the chinch bugs or their eggs? Do they lay eggs? Has any one ever seen their eggs? I cannot find them. The young red eggs are still here, and if the cholera germs will work now as they did for me several years ago, I will soon shorten their days. I could not try this method during the summer, as it takes moist weather to spread the germs. CHERRY DELL, Marion Co., Mo.

Professor S. A. Forbes says: "The chinch bug passes the winter in the adult winged state (a few black wingless individuals occasionally occurring) under rubbish in or around the fields, in corn shocks and straw piles, under boards and among dead leaves in the woods, most abundant, usually, around the edges of the fields and in thickets, and around the borders of woods. From these lurking places such as survive the winter emerge in April and May (possibly earlier, if the season opens early), and, after pairing, lay their eggs in May and June, in fields of spring and winter wheat, barley, rye, oats and corn—chiefly wheat and barley. Most of the eggs being deposited in or near the ground, on the lower parts of the plants. Many of these hibernating around fields soon to wheat and barley make their way first on foot, thus attacking the outer edges first; but others take wing and scatter freely wherever suitable food invites them. By July most of the old bugs will be dead and the new brood will be nearly full-grown."

This same authority says that on the maturity of this brood, which usually occurs in corn fields, that the bugs deposit their eggs behind sheaths of the lower leaves, and under the protection of this retreat the young hatch and mature, only coming out upon the exposed surfaces of the leaves when they become superabundant or when they get their growth. The eggs are about three hundredths of an inch in length and are amber-colored. Each female is believed to be capable of laying about 500 eggs. During fall, winter and spring, all infested grass lands should be burned over to destroy hibernating bugs. The plowing under of the bugs and their eggs is recommended whenever this is practicable. The spread of the fungous disease mentioned by our correspondent is a most effective means of destroying this pest.

PASTURING WHEAT.

Editor RURAL WORLD: Will you or some of your readers who have had experience tell me through the RURAL WORLD whether or not it benefits wheat to pasture it through the winter.

Ripley Co., Mo. L. A. RANDEL.

This is a matter regarding which experience is the best teacher, hence we will be glad to have our readers give their experiences along that line. We have seen crops of wheat that were injured by pasturing. Much will depend on the season, time of sowing, quality and character of the land, whether grass seed was sown with the clover, and the kind and number of stock to be pastured. Let us hear from our readers on the subject, bearing in mind the different points named as affecting the result. J. FERRELL, Oct. 20.

WEEK BY WEEK.

Editor RURAL WORLD: Fall work interferes sadly with one's desires to immortalize himself as a writer in the RURAL WORLD. Especially have I found it so lately. Having added other acres to my little homestead I have been busy making things convenient and abundant. I like to have a place for everything under a good roof; and then have everything in its place. I do not like any tool to be out of doors during the winter. Besides I like to have the stock, from chickens on, warmly and comfortably housed.

The fall is exceedingly pleasant. One naturally thinks of the pets in such weather, for even now in late October, "A patch of flowers I chanced to find, As if the May being thereabout, Had from her apron aptly 'em out."

—Alice Cary.

One can assist his children quite a little in their studies if he will take the time and trouble. For instance, my little girl studying botany must furnish an herbarium with wild flowers exclusively. To go to the woods, and to look into the field which she has never felt the need to plow, she would consume a good deal of time, which she can ill spare for her other studies. So as I go about my duties, I take a little box along, in which I discover a variety we have in our wild flower bed, I dig it up and bring it home. I have a bed in which I plant them, and there can be no more interesting display, take it altogether, than that self-same collection; for so far as I see they all take kindly to cultivation, delight both in the labor and in contemplating the plant, "considering how they grow."

I have a few three variegated asters. All are beautiful. They are a purple, a sky blue and a white. I found, also, a closed Gentian. It acted, when I let it out, as if it never knew that it had been transplanted.

Politics seem to be all the go nowadays. I am rather pronounced in my views, but thus far I have not heard single speech. My politics agree with the large majority of M. E. Parsons; as with am-speakings is not my forte, I let other do the talking.

I like to read a good speech. I have in my library five volumes American Eloquence; also all of Daniel Webster's and Lincoln's speeches. Then have Burke and a lot of British eloquence. Then I prefer to read to quoteracts from Pericles and others as reported by that great reporter, Thucydides, together with the perorations of Eschines and Demosthenes in their talk De Cora. I am glad that I do enjoy the efforts these great men.

One of my favorite books is a collection of sermons from the pen of the M. E. Church South; steel portraits accompany each discourse. Among these great preachers are Bishops Leese, Soule, Granbery, Summers, Dofft, M'Intyre and Marvin. Then there is Revs. J. W. Hanner and J. E. Edwards and others no less eloquent than the bishops.

The fact is I have more than once surmised that I should, like any presiding pastor, be a deacon, because they are dead failures as pastors. But such talk is not very agricultural. However, there isn't much of it. But preachers know other things besides theology!

Gilbert White was a go-preacher, and among the first of naturals. There are but few greater names than Livingston. His works abound in natural history. The same can be truthfully said of Charles Kingsley; his "Water Bies" and his "At Last," abundantly live it. What name in chemistry is greater than Faraday's, and he was the peer of a Scandinavian congregation in Idaho. I could continue this list, but the names must suffice.

I confess that I am fond of such purports. Dr. McCash has a sermon on "The Plant," which I read many times. He seems to have a botany a special study. I have, chiefly I delight in ornithology.

But when it comes to taking money, farming takes the lead in me. I have a 1,000-pound horse that you still drive or four years ago? "You still drive that?" I certainly do, as the reply. "She can get over the ground as fast as I care to go."

I like to see cattle eat popkins. When they are fond of them they hardly get them. I never bother them with them. I feed the milk cow I am contented when I feed the milk cow I do not dry up the flow of milk in the teat, and the cattle like them amazingly.

EDWARD HEATON.

Warren Co., Iowa.

THE CORN FODDER QUESTION.

A Common Sense and a Dollars and Cents View.

Editor RURAL WORLD: In our country any two neighbors who farm about the same number of acres and keep about the same amount of stock. On one farm there have been fed in the course of a year 200 bushels of corn more than on the other. On the first farm 20 to 40 tons of marketable hay have been fed out. On the other no hay of any kind was fed. The hay would have been sold for \$245, making a total of excess fed on farm No. 1, amounting to \$235. On farm No. 2, instead of hay, a mixed combination of roughness, composed largely of corn fodder, some unthrashed oats, remainder pea and bean straw, was fed. Notice that except the seed in the unthrashed oats, all this mixture is a waste product on most farms.

We balance the handling of the one against the other, but charge \$1 per ton for cutting and crushing the mixed stuff, \$25, and for 100 bushels of corn, in the unthrashed oats, \$20; total, \$45. Taking this from the excess of the other farm we have the net saving of \$235. The manner of cutting and crushing this feed has been described in these columns.

Another item of profit: The second farmer sold 20 tons of this mixed feed for \$6 per ton and bought back the manure it made at \$25 a load. That is not all. At no part of the year did the first farmer have a fat horse or fat cow brute. On the other farm the horses and cattle are now and have been fat. Buyers after them every week.

Why there is this difference in the physical condition of the animals is very simple: Number one overfed with a heating, concentrated animal food. It is an unbalanced, constipating ration, the excess of carbohydrates (heat-producing foods), burns up the cooling, laxative elements in the food, while it is passing through the animal and a large percent (much in extreme cases amounts to more than half of the food value) of the nutritive quality of the feed, and it passes into manure pile, instead of into animal energy, meat or milk. Besides the actual waste, the animals are injured. The other farmer feeds sparingly of a bulky, nutritious, nitrogenous and mucilaginous or slightly laxative food, that keeps bowels, kidneys and skin in an ideal condition and the food elements are thus properly digested and assimilated by the animal and with a minimum of waste.

Animals fed under the first system are small boned and small bodied; under the other, heavy boned and grow larger bodied. We cite a case in point to prove this. On farm No. 2 is a five-year-old horse of mixed breeding, and weighing 1,500 pounds; his owner has refused \$100 for him. Farmer No. 1 has no horse on his farm that would sell for \$50. The cattle on the two farms show like results.

So much for the "dollars and cents."

Now for the "common sense." Farm No. 1 shows conditions that apply to 90 per cent of our farms to-day: No farm parents to bring them weekly the ripe fruits of experience and experiments; no effort to advance; no study into why things seem to be going backwards; no brain work, but too much body work, drudging along in ruts and chock holes.

Farm No. 2. An intelligent effort is made to master the facts, both scientific and practical, and apply them to the everyday farm life; with each morning's new sunshine this farmer looks for something better than he has.

The works of Prof. Henry on "Feeds and Feeding," of Prof. Shaw on "Forage Crops," are consulted with the zeal that a doctor studies his text books. One is a progressive farmer, the other is not. We repeat that every day the evidence accumulates that "America" is to produce the choice meats for the world's best meat trade and base the statement upon one fact principally. It alone is sufficient. We are the great corn country of the world; no other country ever can equal us. The highest and finest grades of meat absolutely require corn to bring them a quality of taste, a firmness and finish that cannot be attained without corn. We are nearing a period when corn will be crowned "King" of food products. Every year we will grow more acres and more bushels per acre and get more per bushel for it. Sixteen to 20 cent corn is a thing of the past.

We reserve for another article the "common sense" of the shredder and cutter and the methods of preparing fodder and the "dollars and cents" feature in feeding out their work to farm stock. Our betters as farmers and to attain the social, moral and financial independence due us, must be by building upon a broader and better foundation, using as the chief corner stone "General Intelligence," with "Knowledge of How to Build Up Our Soil," "The Breeding of Better Stock," "A Better Knowledge of Feeds and Greater Skill in Feeding," as stones for the other corners. Shall we build on such a foundation?

ROBT. C. MORRIS.

Richland Co., Ill.

POPCORN YIELDS.—Will some of the readers of the RURAL WORLD give the yield per acre of popcorn as compared with common varieties of field corn?

Cumberland Co., Ill. F. MEEKER.

ABORTION FROM FEEDING COW-PEAS.

Do any of the RURAL WORLD readers know whether cows will abort if turned into a field of ripe cowpeas to feed?

Rolls, Mo. J. H. M.

WHY IS IT?

Editor RURAL WORLD: Business has lately called me out among the farmers; and driving over a good deal of the country, I find corn light, badly blown down and much of it rotting.

Not much wheat has been sown, but what is sown looks well. Why don't farmers sow some wheat every year and not put all "their eggs in one basket?"

Why are the harvesters left just where the work stopped, some holding the last sheaf? Often the owner is paying interest on the harvester or mower. Yet he leaves these machines to take the rains, dews and hot sunshines. He did not have the money, but must have a machine to harvest his crops, so it is bought. A note bearing interest is helping to eat up the profits. When wanted the second year the machine does not run so well, and perhaps a few trips to town is all the loss; but the third year it costs so much for repair that it is considered useless, and left just out of the way, while a new one takes its place, this to be treated like its predecessor. Why? The interest and money paid for repairs, also time lost, would have built a shed to shield it and all the machinery on the farm. In winter the woodwork could be painted, the gearing kept polished, oiled and in order. Often I see harrows, plows and rollers left, not in the fence corner, but sticking in the ground, when the team was unhitched at the call for dinner. Oh, the patience required, as well as time, to get them in good working order.

Why do men with small houses move their heating stoves out under a tree to take the summer rain? When wanted they are covered with rust. Labor and all the patience one can sum up for the occasion can't make the stove look as well as before. Rainy days during summer often call for fires; why not leave your stove in place, and enjoy the comforts it gives when the weather is damp and chilly?

Why leave the gate hanging by one hinge? A few moments before breakfast would fix it; if left alone soon the other hinge is off and the gate set aside or propped up; so when one wishes to pass through it must be moved. See the time consumed, and then it looks so badly. These are only a few things that wear the nerves, make us cross and unpleasant at home—cross, crabbed and unwelcome everywhere because of one continuing grumble of hard times and bad luck of which every one gets tired hearing about.

I regret very much that Judge Miller has met with such a painful accident, but I hope he will soon be entirely recovered. His long life in a work that is so near the farmer's heart will make him miss from the RURAL WORLD. We hope he will send a picture of himself and home to the RURAL WORLD, for all must wish to see the man and his home of whom we have read so much.

BILLY BRIARWOOD.

Johnson Co., Mo.

NOTES FROM CALIFORNIA.

Sorghum, Bacon and Melons.

Editor RURAL WORLD: A few weeks ago a woman writer had a short article in the RURAL WORLD about sorghum syrup, mainly, I think, a recipe for making good syrup. A couple of weeks later there was quite a lengthy article on the same subject, and still other articles about sorghum. I was surprised when I looked up the market report and find that sorghum syrup was quoted as quite variable in quality and was rated at 15 to 25 cents a gallon. I want to say that sorghum syrup can be made and has been made fully equal to any new New Orleans molasses.

About 30 years ago I worked for the State of Missouri in examining, classifying and appraising the Agricultural College lands. I had an assistant, and we drove a good pair of horses to a long spring wagon with a canvas cover that we could put up when we needed it, and we carried an army mess chest in which we carried our food, etc. We bought blouses from the farmers' wives. We always ate our dinners in the woods, and sometimes all our meals, and slept in the wagon.

In the fall of the year when the farmers were working up their sorghum, we frequently bought their syrup to eat on our biscuits, as butter was scarce. I must say that we frequently bought sorghum syrup fully equal in every respect to the best New Orleans molasses. I think no one could tell the difference. If those people in the backwoods, as you might say, at least living 75 miles from railroad, as they were at the time I speak of, could make a good syrup as they did, it would seem important that others should study the business better so as to get better paying prices for syrup. Difference in soil would make some difference, doubtless; also difference in cultivation, difference in variety of cane, but probably the mode of working it up had the most effect.

Sugar beets are largely raised in California for making sugar, and I think could be successfully. I think a sandy loam soil is preferred.

BACON.—Another food product that we found in those southern counties of Missouri was the best bacon that I ever ate. I did not see a Poland-China hog in that district. The hogs that I did see were such as the Poland-China fanciers would call "razorbacks." "Long-nosed, slab-sided, half civilized hogs." I have seen just that description in the RURAL

WORLD. The hogs that I saw in South Missouri were principally well rounded, comely looking hogs, especially at killing time. Their noses were not driven up into the neck, giving them a head like that of a pug dog, but the noses were reasonably long, and I do say that the bacon they yielded could not be excelled. The bacon in that region was dry cured so far as I know. I have seen it piled up on something like a carpenter's work bench, first a layer of salt, then a layer of bacon, and so on to the height of about three feet. The salt draws out the watery blood, and when that is done the salt is brushed off and the meat goes to the smoke-house. I do not know how generally dry curing is practiced, but I have seen it done at our place in St. Louis County.

Some time last spring I saw on a rear counter in one of the largest general stores in this county a piece of bacon cut in the middle that was three and a half inches in thickness. It was all clear white fat except a faint streak of red about half an inch from the inner side; it could scarcely be called a streak of lean. It laid there, I think, five or six weeks. I don't know what became of it, as I asked no questions about it. Such bacon would be suitable to send to Greenland. The natives there live largely on walrus blubber. It is said that they like to eat tallow candles, and also that they sometimes eat whale oil. Such highly carbonized, heat-producing food is proper in frozen regions, but it is out of place in temperate climates.

MELONS.—In the last article that I have seen from the "Week by Week" contributor he spoke of the deliciousness of some watermelons that he had eaten. To my mind a good green fleshed melon is far superior in taste and in nutrition to any watermelon. To the Southern dorkies there is nothing equal to "watermelon" as they call them. When I lived in St. Louis County I used to plant two kinds of green fleshed melons. First the Jenny Lind, because it was early. For the season crop the Green Chilton melon was planted. When they were beginning to ripen I would go to the patch and when I saw the stem beginning to crack off around the outer edge, I would pick them and carry them into the cellar, where they would keep cool and delicious during the day. They were so sweet and juicy that I had no use for watermelons. A little cracking around the stem was a sure sign of ripeness. A yellow fleshed musk melon I would not have.

The "Week by Week" communications are very interesting. If the writer of them can preach as well as he writes he is certainly a good preacher, and I hope what church he belongs to, and if I do not belong to the same, I do belong to the church that John Wesley lived and died in. A good preacher, it seems to me, should not only be a lover of human nature, but a lover of inanimate nature. The same Being is the author of both.

"Lord God of hosts, be with us yet, Lest we forget, lest we forget."

San Mateo, Cal. DR. L. D. MORSE.

WANTS THE BOYS WELL FED.

Editor RURAL WORLD: C. A. Bird, Vernon Co., Mo., writes entertainingly in the RURAL WORLD of October 7, under the caption, "Good Advice to Boys," and I have read his views with interest. I am not long since I was a boy-in-fact, I am catalogued with "the boys" to-day, and, with the editor's permission, I beg to offer a few considerations from the boy's standpoint. Well and good, Mr. Bird, that the boy should go to some good school, college or university and acquire a technical education along the line which best suits his fancy—it may be medicine, law, art, agriculture. And good too, if he can work his way through any one of the institutions mentioned, but when it comes to starving or going half-fed in order to acquire an education, the line should be closely drawn. No student can do his best work when stintingly fed. Three wholesome meals per day are as essential to the successful work of a student as they are to the welfare of the 16-hour-per-day farm hand.

The system needs a given amount of food each day in order that it properly may be strengthened. The physical and mental man are intimately related, and the one shares any injury, slight or heavy, which the other may receive. Lack of food will injure the physical man, in course of time, and the mental man will experience the difficulties to which this injury will give rise.

The statement that a solid meal may be had for 10 cents is at variance with the facts. It may be "solid" enough, but that is a quality which would not, or seldom appear an appetite accustomed to wholesome diet. Experience would prove to Mr. Bird that 10-cent meals are pretty weak in tissue-building elements, and are not calculated to promote cheerful disposition and good health.

The boy at college needs plenty of good food, plenty of sleep and plenty of exercise. He ought to have the best of all.

DEVITT C. WING.

Champaign Co., Ill.

The farm institute is growing in more popular favor each year. Fully two times as many people have attended these meetings this year as last, and the interest taken has been greatly increased. The indications are healthful. They point to a greater enlightenment of the farmer on agricultural and dairy subjects.

HORTICULTURAL TALKS.

Wonderful Values IN PARLOR ORGANS.

[illegible]

and other conditions prevail that cause the business to be entirely in the hands of the Chinese. If once Americans could gain a foothold in the selling of greening in

China in a retail way, it would be very beneficial to the business in breaking the present Chinese Ginseng Trust. The business as it is now, is controlled by a strong Chinese syndicate that will only buy what they can see and examine. If American commission men or dealers could command the trade, greater profits would be made, thus saving the enormous profits made by the syndicate. This may be brought about by the settlement of the present difficulties. At any rate the business cannot be damaged any, because the powers will certainly not give up any trade privileges that have already been granted, and the United States in her attitude toward China certainly stands a fair chance of receiving favorable trade privileges.

The Chinese want our ginseng, and will not, if they could, bar it from entering their ports; the demand, according to U. S. Consular reports, being greater than the supply.

CHINESE KILLED OR CIVILIZED?
This question as to what would become of the ginseng business should the Chinese be killed or civilized, seems to me to be very curious one, and shows a disgusting ignorance on the part of those voicing the views of the Chinese as a nation. The Chinese number between four and five hundred million souls, and if they should fight for

meeting of the Illinois State Horticultural Society, in the new Agricultural Building of the University of Illinois, at Champaign, December 11, 12 and 13, 1900. This meeting is expected to excel in attendance.

and interest any of the recent meetings of the society. It will be a fine opportunity for those having friends at the University to visit them and to inspect the University. The program is full and varied, and contains the names of manageable men, specialists in their respective lines. The topics are "The Blight of the Apple", "Blister Rot," "Spraying," "Pruning" and "Cultivation of Orchards," "Window Gardening," "Forestry," "Winter Vegetables," "Packing and Marketing Fruit," "Development of the Apple Blossom," "Cross Fertilization," etc. Liberal premiums are offered, and a large display is expected, including exhibits from the Society's experiment stations.

It is the duty of the club of horticultural tools, appliances and spraying machinery, which it is expected will include the latest improvements in this line.

The ladies are specially invited to attend this meeting and will find many objects of interest.

Send to L. R. Bryant, Secretary, Princeton, N. J., for program, premium list, etc., which will be issued soon.

All of the meetings mentioned above are open to all members or not, but \$1.00 sent to the secretary of any of these societies will secure an annual membership card, and a copy of the annual report, containing the proceedings of all the societies, or \$5.00 will get a lifetime membership card, and a number of back volumes of reports.

who wants a summer home for his family and leave it in care of a tenant the remainder of the year. Land is free from incumbrance and title good. I would be glad to have anyone looking over a place.

used to have parties getting drunk & making a row in person and driving them home would meet them at the door and drive them out free of charge. We had bought and improved this farm with a view to spending the remainder of our money to make it a model home. But my health has failed so much within the last year, and having no other means of support, I feel compelled to give it up. Price, \$4,000.
Salem, Mo. G. A. VAN FLEET.

WE CAN'T DO IT

without your assistance, but have always made a strong effort to turn the attention of legitimate homeseekers in this direction. It is being done by homeseekers in this direction, but the expense of this region and at great expense. Will you help us in this work by furnishing list of persons who need to help in the work. I will send suitable printed matter. Address Bryan Snyder, G. P. A., Frisco Line, St. Louis, Mo.

SOUVENIR VIEWS EN ROUTE TO CALIFORNIA VIA UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD.

We have just received from the Union Pacific Railroad a beautiful publication containing forty views of the Missouri River and California. This is one of the most artistic publications ever issued and it will be sent to you free of charge. It will be mailed free on receipt of 4 cents in stamps for postage, on application to J. F. Aglar, General Agent, Frisco Line, St. Louis, Mo. It is well worth the money, and see for it.

Peoria Co., Ill. **MRS. L. HARRISON.** are driven, and the workers do the house-
ness work. The lives of these different
kinds of bees varies. The queen lives four
or five years. The workers live about 45
days, while the drones live for a much



shorter time. Sometimes the workers pith on a drone and kill him, and if more than one queen bee should be in a hive the workers kill off all but one.

"The queen bee is the mother of all the bees. She lays all the eggs. She is a queen, indeed, and all others, figuratively speaking, bow to her. She lays her weight in eggs every day. She deposits a single egg in a cell. This is sealed up by the other bees, and in the course of time a bee hatches. In almost every comb of honey there is a queen cell. Also cells for drones and workers. The same egg will produce either a queen, a drone or a worker. It depends upon the food. A queen will hatch in 11 days, a drone in 14 days, and a worker will not hatch for 21 days. The queens are usually imported. They are brought over in a small box, sealed, and the box is placed in the hive. After the introduction the little box is unsealed, and the old queen is either removed or killed. White clover is the best food for bees. Apple blossoms are very fine and golden rod, wild aster, Spanish needle and many other flowers are acceptable. In rainy weather, when bees cannot forage, a syrup made of the best grade of sugar is fed them. In winter from 16 to 79 pounds of honey is made. The bees live dormant in winter and feed on this honey."

It takes them two or three hours to settle down to the natural order of things, and gathering honey; and sometimes when their hives have been taken apart and combs taken out and handled they will be more or less confused for a whole day.

The harm done by fusing with hives is still greater in winter. If bees are not killed outright, they will be worthless the next summer. Whoever saw an "old veteran" always feeding around his bees? Men who have had experience always have their bees prepared when cold weather arrives, and then they are not again molested till spring. With these "old hands" feeding is always done during warm weather, and this management bees seldom die. C alone never kills bees.

When you bees require attention, get it and then quit. Do not keep them stirring up till you have "doctored" them to death, and then think that there is more in bees are either fools or dishonest.

It used to be said that the honey would "work for nothing and board his self," but there is another old saying that "those who work for nothing do not really earn any more than their wages." Beekeepers have learned that while bees will sometimes produce surplus honey when they have but little care and food excepting such as they gather from the flowers, yet to have them almost uniformly produce surplus honey is to add materially to the income of the owner, they need care, and at certain seasons food other than that they find in the garden and fields.

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